

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 02685 061619Z

ACTION AF-04

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-08 IO-06 INR-05 INRE-00

CIAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 L-01 SP-02 /041 W

-----115776 061627Z /50

O R 061330Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO /SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6500

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 2685

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PDEV RH US UK

SUBJECT: BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONERS TALK WITH NKOMO

REF: LUSAKA 2683

1. BRITISH HIGH COMMISSIONER MILES SAW NKOMO MONDAY TO GET HIS REACTION TO OUR PROPOSAL. NKOMO SAID THERE WERE A NUMBER OF FEATURES TO THE PROPOSAL WITH WHICH HE DISAGREED. HE NOTED THAT THE PROPOSAL ONLY MENTIONED THAT THE CHIEF JUSTICE WOULD BE REPLACED. HE FELT THERE WERE AT LEAST TWO OTHER JUDGES WHO NEEDED TO BE FIRED-- DAVIS AND MCDONALD. HE COMPLAINED THAT THOSE JUDGES WHO WERE NOT RELIEVED PRIOR TO INDEPENDENCE COULD REMAIN UNTIL RETIREMENT.

2. NKOMO SAID HE WAS WORKING ON COUNTER PROPOSALS

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WHICH HE HOPTED WOULD BE READY TO PRESENT BY THE END OF THE WEEK. HE RAISED WITH MILES,AS HE HAD WITH ME, HIS OBJECTIONS TO PROCEEDING WITH THE PROPOSAL IN THE UN AND SAID THAT IF WE WENT AHEAD WITH THE ACTION IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL BEFORE HIS COUNTER PROPOSALS HAD BEEN PRESENTED, "WE SHALL HAVE TO OPPOSE YOU". PRESUMABLY THE COUNTER PROPOSAL WILL EMANATE FROM THE PATRIOTIC

FRONT, ALTHOUGH IT IS FAIRLY CLEAR THAT MOST OF THE WORK GOING INTO THEM IS FROM NKOMO'S ZAPU.

3. NKOMO MADE A NUMBER OF DISPARAGING REFERENCES TO THE FRONTLINE AND PARTICULARLY TO THE PARTICIPATION IN THE ISSUE BY THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH DID NOT BORDER ON RHODESIA. HE TOLD MILES THAT THE BRITISH WOULD HAVE TO BE VERY CLEAR THAT THEY WERE NEGOTIATING WITH THE REPRESENTATIVES OF ZIMBABWE AND NOT WITH THE FRONTLINE.

4. COMMENT: BOTH MILES AND I FEEL THAT WE SHOULD PRESS ON WITH OUR PROPOSAL ACCORDING TO THE TIMETABLE WHICH WE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWING. WHATEVER NKOMO COMES UP WITH, WE SHOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER (AS WE WERE THE PROBLEMS RAISED BY THE RHODESIANS WITH GRAHAM AND MYSELF IN SALISBURY) BUT WE SHOULD NOT DELAY THE PROCESS IN ORDER TO DO SO.
LOW

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NNN

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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